

URBAN DISTRICT OF SALISBURY.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for 1920.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health and details of Sanitary Work during the year 1920. The Report of your Sanitary Inspector is incorporated in above.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. P. Brown

1920.

REPORT.

Statistical Summary :

Acreage	..	..	..	..	1,720
Population at Census 1901	..	..	..	..	20,185
Population at Census 1911	..	..	..	..	21,217
Population estimated at middle of 1920, for Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	23,428
" " " for Death Rate	..	..	..	..	23,275
Number of inhabited houses at Census 1901	..	..	..	..	4,185
" " " 1911	..	..	..	..	4,840
Average number of inhabitants per house at Census 1911	..	..	..	..	4.38
Births registered in 1920 (corrected)	..	..	..	..	521
Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	22.2
Average Birth Rate, 1916—1920 (5 years)	..	..	..	..	19.0
Total number of Deaths registered in the District in 1920	..	..	..	..	329
Corrected number of Deaths	..	..	..	..	218
Death Rate (crude)	..	..	..	..	14.1
Death Rate (corrected)	..	..	..	..	9.3
Average Death Rate (crude) 1916—1920 (5 years)	..	..	..	..	18.8
Average Death Rate (corrected) 1916—1920 (5 years)	..	..	..	..	12.5
Number of Deaths under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	25
Infantile Mortality Rate, calculated on the number of Deaths, under 1 year of age per 1000 Births	..	..	..	..	47.9
Average Infantile Mortality Rate, 1916—1920 (5 years)	..	..	..	..	67.1
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	..	..	..	..	8
Death Rate from Zymotic Diseases	..	..	..	..	0.39

N.B.—A “ crude Death Rate ” includes Deaths in the District of Non Residents and a “ corrected Death Rate ” excludes Deaths in the District of Non Residents, and includes Deaths outside the District of Residents. It is thus affected by what are termed “ Transferable Deaths ” ; these are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a District other than that in which they resided.

Memorandum by the Registrar General :

The numbers of births and deaths are those registered during the calendar year, and are corrected for inward and outward transfers ; they will differ therefore from uncorrected figures compiled locally either for the calendar year or for a period of fifty-two or fifty-three weeks.

In 1920 demobilization had reached a stage at which it is felt that the distinction between "birth-rate populations and death-rate populations," made during the period when a large part of the male population was under arms, might in general be discontinued. For most districts, therefore, a single estimate of population is shown and this is applicable to both births and deaths. For a few areas which contain an appreciable non-civilian population, however, two estimates of population, one for calculation of the birth-rate and one for the civilian death-rate, are given, as in recent years.

BIRTHS.

In 1910	Number of Births registered in the District	415.	Rate	18.6.
„ 1911	„ „ „	439.	„	20.6.
„ 1912	„ „ „	398.	„	18.6.
„ 1913	„ „ „	448.	„	20.8.
„ 1914	„ „ „	381.	„	17.7.
„ 1915	„ „ „	424.	„	20.2.
„ 1916	„ „ „	385.	„	21.9.
„ 1917	„ „ „	382.	„	16.7.
„ 1918	„ „ „	415.	„	17.8.
„ 1919	„ „ „	387.	„	16.5.
„ 1920	„ „ „	521.	„	22.2.

The number of Births exceeds by 73 the highest figure registered in previous 10 years.

Illegitimate Births :

These numbered 36.

Thus in 1910 there were 24.

„ 1911	„	15.
„ 1912	„	27.
„ 1913	„	33.
„ 1914	„	22.
„ 1915	„	21.
„ 1916	„	35.
„ 1917	„	37.
„ 1918	„	54.
„ 1919	„	49.
„ 1920	„	36.

DEATHS (*corrected*).

<i>Causes of Death.</i> (Civilians only)			<i>Males. Females.</i>		<i>Causes of Death</i> (Civilians only)			<i>Males Females.</i>	
All Causes	...	...	109	109	19 Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	1	...
1 Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	20 Appendicitis & Typhlitis	...	...	...	1
2 Small-pox	...	...	...	...	21 Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	2	1
3 Measles	...	...	...	...	21A Alcoholism	...	...	...	...
4 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1	22 Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	6	1
5 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	5	23 Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...
6 Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	1	...	24 Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	2
7 Influenza	...	...	1	...	25 Congenital Debility, &c.	...	...	7	5
8 Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	26 Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	4	2
9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	8	2	27 Suicide	...	...	...	...
10 Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	1	28 Other Defined Diseases	...	...	39	40
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	1	29 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...
12 Cancer and Malignant Disease	...	...	8	20	Special Causes (included above)	...	...	...	...
13 Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	1
14 Meningitis	...	...	...	1	Poliomyelitis	...	...	1	...
15 Organic Heart Disease	...	...	15	15	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	1	...
16 Bronchitis	...	...	11	7					
17 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	6	4					
18 Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...					

In 1910	Number registered in District	246.	Rate	11.02.
„ 1911	„ „ „	261.	„	12.3.
„ 1912	„ „ „	222.	„	10.3.
„ 1913	„ „ „	268.	„	12.2.
„ 1914	„ „ „	263.	„	12.2.
„ 1915	„ „ „	348	„	16.6.
„ 1916	„ „ „	285.	„	14.04.
„ 1917	„ „ „	254.	„	12.4.
„ 1918	„ „ „	302.	„	14.5.
„ 1919	„ „ „	279.	„	12.4.
„ 1920	„ „ „	218.	„	9.3.

The Death Rate is lower by 1.0 than in any of the last 10 years.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1920.

(Provisional figures. Provisional populations estimated to the middle of 1920 have been used for the purposes of this Table. The mortality rates refer to the whole population [as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.]

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1000 POPULATION.									RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping-cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 Years.	Total Deaths under One Year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales	25.4	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.19	0.04	0.11	0.15	0.28	0.48	8.3	80	24.3	92.2	6.6	1.2
96 Great Towns including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000) ..	26.2	12.5	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.04	0.14	0.16	0.31	0.43	10.4	85	31.3	92.2	7.1	0.7
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000—50,000) ..	24.9	11.3	0.02	0.00	0.19	0.03	0.10	0.14	0.27	0.38	7.8	80	16.5	93.2	5.3	1.5
London	26.5	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.05	0.17	0.22	0.30	0.47	9.5	75	46.8	91.2	8.6	0.2

Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.—

	Residents.	Non-Residents
Fisherton House	—	37
Salisbury Infirmary	24	67
Tower House	26	11
Nursing Homes }	2	5
Other places }	2	11
Harnwood Hospital	—	—
	54	131

There were 20 deaths of residents in Public Institutions and other places outside the District.

Infantile Mortality.—There were 25 Deaths of residents under 1 year of age, giving a Mortality Rate of 47.9 per 1000 births. 2 were deaths of illegitimate infants. The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales in 1920 is 80.0.

The Rate in 1920 was	47.9.
„ 1919 „	77.5.
„ 1918 „	69.8.
„ 1917 „	75.9.
„ 1916 „	65.4.
„ 1915 „	106.0.
„ 1914 „	68.2.
„ 1913 „	69.1.
„ 1912 „	55.9.
„ 1911 „	91.1.

Infantile Mortality Rate (Legitimate Births) is 47.6.

„ „ (Illegitimate Births) is 55.5.

Only one infant out of the above 25 attended the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

INFANT MORTALITY.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>Under 1 week.</i>	<i>1—2 weeks.</i>	<i>2—3 weeks.</i>	<i>3—4 weeks.</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks.</i>	<i>4 weeks, and under 3 mths.</i>	<i>3 mths. and under 6 mths.</i>	<i>6 mths. and under 9 mths.</i>	<i>9 mths. and under 1 year.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Premature Birth ...	6	1	1	1	9	1	...	...	...	10
Debility ...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Gastritis ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Broncho Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	3
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hydrocephalus ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Congenital Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Want of care and attention at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Natural causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atalectesis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Polio-Encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	8	1	2	1	12	5	1	5	2	25

Zymotic Diseases.—The seven principal Zymotic Diseases are Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever and Diarrhœa.

There were 8 Deaths of Residents from Zymotic Diseases—Scarlet Fever 1, Whooping Cough 5, Diphtheria 1, Diarrhœa 1—giving a Death Rate of .34 per 1000, as against :—

In 1919 a Rate of	.26.
„ 1918 „	.67.
„ 1917 „	.24.
„ 1916 „	.6.
„ 1915 „	1.2.
„ 1914 „	.55.
„ 1913 „	.8.
„ 1912 „	.3.

Tuberculosis.—12 Deaths of residents occurred from this Disease, 10 being due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, giving a Death Rate of .51, as against :—

In 1919 a Rate of	.84.
„ 1918 „	1.4.
„ 1917 „	1.3.
„ 1916 „	.73.
„ 1915 „	.85.
„ 1914 „	.8.
„ 1913 „	1.4.
„ 1912 „	.65.

Cancer and Malignant Disease.—28 Deaths of residents occurred from this Disease, giving a Death Rate of 1.2 per 1000, as against :—

In 1919 a Rate of	1.5.
„ 1918 „	1.01.
„ 1917 „	1.3.
„ 1916 „	1.6.
„ 1915 „	.9.
„ 1914 „	1.2.
„ 1913 „	1.3.
„ 1912 „	1.03.

Inquests were held upon 13 Deaths :

- 2 Deaths were due to accidents in which Motor Cars or Motor Cycles were concerned.
- 1 Death was due to a fall from a ladder.
- 3 Deaths were due to natural causes.
- 1 Death was due to blood poisoning.
- 1 „ „ heart failure after administration of chloroform.
- 2 Deaths were due to asphyxiation by coal gas (one a suicide).
- 1 Death was due to fall into street from third floor window.
- 1 „ „ scald by boiling water.
- 1 „ „ shock following prolonged operation.

Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889.—The number of Infectious Diseases notified was 60.

Diphtheria	..	..	32 cases.
Scarlet Fever	..	..	25 „
Erysipelas	..	..	3 „

Table of Infectious Diseases 10 years—

Year.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever.
1910	15	67	9	3
1911	13	110	9	4
1912	12	23	9	2
1913	15	42	3	1
1914	16	113	13	5
1915	35	100	14	4
1916	50	70	4	1
1917	30	10	2	7
1918	12	9	0	0
1919	14	28	3	1
<i>Averages 10 years—</i>				
	21.2	57.2	6.6	2.8
1920	32	25	3	0

Scarlet Fever.—One death occurred.

Diphtheria.—One death resulted.

Enteric Fever.—There were no cases.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—One case occurred, patient died.

Polio-Encephalitis.—One case occurred, death followed.

Public Health (Measles and German Measles) Regulations, 1915.—These regulations are now withdrawn.

Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1914.—Seven cases were notified. All were personally visited, and most were treated in Hospital.

Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery) Regulations, 1919.—Five cases of Pneumonia were notified.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—In 1920 25 cases of this disease were notified. Since January, 1909, 316 cases have been notified. Of this number 142 are known to be dead of the Disease.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Three cases were notified.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District :

Population basis 1911, 21,217.

do. (estimated) 1920, 23,428 for Birth Rate.
23,275 for Death Rate.

The ancient part of the City lies on a bed of alluvial gravel at and around the confluence of the Avon and Nadder, the former river intersecting the City from north to south ; surrounding the City is water meadow land. The lowest part of the City lies at 151.1 Ordnance Datum. The newer part of the City has grown towards the rising ground around and lies on the chalk.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are those of domestic trades supplying the needs of the population of the District and also of a large rural area around, which is engaged almost entirely in agriculture and the production of milk. There are some factories in the District, but none of them, owing to the nature of employment in them, affect in any way the health of the employés.

The amount expended on persons receiving Out-door Relief during 1920 was £2448 13s. 5d.

The Salisbury Infirmary supplies the main source of gratuitous medical relief.

No Census Returns are available as showing overcrowding of any part of the area.

Sanitary circumstances of the District :

The Water Supply of the District is derived from deep wells in the chalk and is ample in quantity and of excellent purity. The supply is constant throughout. The larger part of the District is supplied by the Waterworks owned by the City Corporation, a part of the District, situate in the Wards of St. Paul and Fisherton, is supplied by the Bemerton Waterworks, a private Company with Statutory powers. The water is analysed chemically and bacteriologically at regular intervals and is found to maintain its high standard of purity.

The quantity of water pumped per head for domestic purposes was 25.68 gallons per head of the population. These figures only concern the Waterworks owned by the City Corporation.

The last analysis is appended :—

Chemical Analysis.—Results expressed in Grains per Gallon—

Saline Ammonia	..	..	..	.0003
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	.0004
Nitrogen as Nitrate	..	..	..	.483
Nitrites	..	..	..	absent
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80 F	..	..	..	.003
Chlorine as Chloride	..	..	..	1.2
Total dissolved Solids	..	..	..	23.0
Earthy Carbonates	..	..	..	14.5
Earthy Salts, not Carbonates	..	..	..	2.5
Hardness	..	..	..	18.0
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	absent
Sediment	..	..	..	none

Bacteriological Analysis—

Colonies on Gelatine Plate at 22 C.	..	4 per c.c.
Colonies Liquefying Gelatine	..	0 „
Colonies on Agar Plate at 37 C.	..	0 „
Bacillus Coli from 100 c.c.	..	absent
Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes	..	absent
Streptococci	..	absent

These results, both chemical and bacteriological, are normal and altogether satisfactory.

There is no pollution of the rivers and streams of the District.

The general condition of the sewers is good and they are regularly inspected and flushed. Practically the whole of the District is drained into the City sewers except where owing to actual condition it is impossible to lay a drain to the sewer. The sewage disposal system consists of a primary tank to which the whole sewage of the District flows by gravitation ; from this it is pumped by the air lift into the Septic Tank, whence after taking twelve hours to flow through it passes by gravitation on to five Adams' continuous sprinkler beds ; the effluent from these beds finally passes over secondary beds of clinker with fine clinker on the top to separate out the fine black suspended matter before its passage to the river Avon. An excellent effluent free from odour and very low in free and albuminoid ammonia is thus produced.

The latest analysis of effluent is here appended :—

	Sewage.	Tank Effluent.	Primary Filter.	Final Filter.
Saline Ammonia	4.00	3.70	1.20	.50
Albuminoid Ammonia	.67	.47	.28	.08
Nitrogen as Nitrate and Nitrite	—	—	1.58	2.06
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	2.60	1.7	.76	.46
Chlorine as Chloride	6.60	6.0	5.80	5.80
Suspended Solids : Organic	62.9	11.0	6.0	1.0
„ „ Mineral	20.6	9.0	4.0	1.0
„ „ Total	83.5	20.0	10.0	2.0
Incubator Test	...	...	Non Putrescent	Non Putrescent

LOSS OF DISSOLVED OXYGEN ON KEEPING—ROYAL COMMISSION TEST.

1 Day	...	...	.536	.275
2 Days	...	...	.794	.394

Closet accommodation is almost entirely on the water carriage system, the only exception being seven earth closets which exist in the District on account of special conditions.

Scavenging.—The whole of the District is scavenged systematically by the Council. The refuse is removed by suitable and covered carts ; it is then taken to the Sewage Disposal Works and burnt, at the rate of 100 tons per week, in a Horsfall's Destructor, which does its work well. Only six fixed ashpits exist in the District, and six moveable ashbins have been provided where none previously existed. The great majority of the houses in the District are without proper ashbins.

Sanitary Inspections of District :

(a) For number and nature of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector during the year see special headings.					
(b) The number of Statutory Notices served during the year				..	2
Do.		Informal Notices		Do.	243
(c) Result of service of such Notices :—					
Statutory notices complied with					2
Informal notices complied with					213
Outstanding					30

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS
OR REGULATIONS.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

Common Lodging Houses.—There is one in the District, situated in Winchester Street, and registered to accommodate 44 Lodgers. The house is a series of dwelling houses converted into a common lodging house, and is thus old fashioned. It is well lighted and ventilated, and kept scrupulously clean throughout. 41 Inspections were made, when the premises were found each time in a cleanly condition. The usual limewashing, as required by Section 82 of the Public Health Act 1875, was duly carried out.

Offensive Trades.—There are 6 of these on the Register, 4 of Tripe boiling, 1 of a Fellmonger and 1 of a Rag, Skin and Waste Paper Merchant. Periodical visits were paid to the premises, when they were found kept in a cleanly state. No complaints were received during the year.

Van Dwellings used for Human Habitation.—At the last October Fair 46 inspections were made of the Caravans so used ; they were found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition, and the inmates free from infectious disease.

Schools.—In order to prevent the spread of infectious disease in Elementary Schools the Head Teachers and the Clerk to the Education Committee are notified immediately of the existence of a Notifiable Infectious Disease in the homes of children. 149 notices were sent out requiring parents to prohibit their children from attending school until disinfection had been carried out and for a definite period from the appearance of the last case.

Two of the Schools had their Infants' Departments closed on account of Measles.

Food (a) Milk Supply.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—The names of 32 Milk Vendors are on the Register. 145 inspections were made of the premises, and no nuisance was found therein. Limewashing was carried out and the premises kept clean and wholesome. Inspections of the Cowsheds were carried out at the time of milking to ascertain as to the cleanliness of the cows' udders and teats and the hands of the milkers. White overalls or aprons, a towel, soap and water were found provided for the milkers. No action was taken in regard to any Tuberculous Milk.

(b) Meat.

Unsound Food.—Inspections and examinations were made of all meat found in Slaughter Houses and of various other articles of food which were exposed for sale in the Market Place and tradesmen's shops throughout the City. In one or two instances organs of animals found in Slaughter Houses were upon examination discovered to be affected with Parasitic Diseases, viz., *Distoma Hepaticum* and *Cysticercus Tenuicollis*.

The following lots of unsound food were also voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

Beef (Home killed)	..	..	..	3165 lbs.
Beef (Frozen)	..	..	..	753 lbs.
Mutton (Frozen)	..	..	..	70 lbs.
Venison	..	..	..	60 lbs.
Bacon and Gammons	..	..	..	440 lbs.
Rabbits	..	..	..	12 couples.
Dates	..	..	..	65 lbs.
Tin Goods of all kinds	..	..	..	161 tins.

Slaughter Houses.—There are 7 registered and 6 licensed Slaughter Houses and 1 Knacker's Yard in the District. 351 inspections were made, when so far as cleanliness is concerned they were found kept in a proper manner. Some need reconstructing and rearranging so as to comply with the requirements of modern knowledge.

No Public Abattoir exists in the District.

The number of carcasses condemned for Tuberculosis was 5.

The number of parts of carcasses condemned for Tuberculosis was 1.

Number of Slaughter Houses in use in the District :—

		In 1914.	In January 1920.	In December 1920.
Registered	..	9	8	7
Licensed	..	4	5	6
		13	13	13

(c) Other Foods.

Bakehouses.—There are 23 Bakehouses and Restaurant Kitchens on the Register. 54 inspections were made of them. All were cleansed and limewashed in accordance with the Factory and Workshop Act 1901. Considerable difficulty was experienced in this work owing to scarcity of labour, and the same remarks apply to the limewashing of Slaughter Houses. On one or two occasions the attention of the occupiers had to be directed to the conditions in which the floors were found.

Horse conveyances are gradually being replaced by motor vehicles, which are reducing the number of manure pounds either on or adjacent to these premises. This is materially assisting us in combating the fly nuisance so prevalent in Bakehouses.

Premises used for the manufacture of Ice Creams.—Periodical visits were paid to several of these premises to inquire under what conditions the creams were being made, also to ascertain if the premises were being kept in a sanitary state and to examine thoroughly the utensils used. I understand that samples of the powder used for manufacturing these creams are now purchased for the purpose of analysis. No cause for complaint or nuisances were discovered.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act :

During 1920 50 samples were taken, all informal. 2 cases were found adulterated, e.g., Milk with added water 1%, and same product with 1% of fat deficient.

The samples taken consisted of milk, butter, lard, margarine, sausages, honey and various jams. No samples of bread were taken.

Milk :

Number of samples examined for presence of a preservative	..	13
Number in which preservative was reported to be present	..	0
Percentage of preservative found in each sample	..	0

WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES &C.

For statements see Table set out as required.

Factories and Workshops.—A Register is kept of all these premises known within the City. There are 284 so registered, which number includes Bakehouses and Restaurant Kitchens. 375 inspections were made. In a few instances Workshops were either closed down, converted into factories, or the occupiers discontinued the employment of hands in same. 15 notices for the abatement of nuisances were served. The defects found to exist were want of cleanliness, 3; insufficient or defective sanitary accommodation, 5; other nuisances, 17.

Outworkers.—During the year 29 lists were received with the names of 69 Outworkers. Several inspections of the premises and of the rooms where homework is done were made.

Prevalence of and control over Infectious Diseases :

Infectious Diseases generally.—The amount of infection during the year has been very slight. There is not much call for supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin to Medical Practitioners in the District, for as a rule all cases of Diphtheria are removed to Hospital. One case of Encephalitis Lethargica was reported. No return cases of Scarlet Fever occurred.

The number of diseases notifiable under Regulations of January 7th 1919 are appended above.

Bacteriological aids to Diagnosis are largely used; Diphtheria contacts found to be carriers are isolated and disinfected.

The Mortality from Influenza amounted to one death in the year.

All cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are notified; in fact cases are often notified more than once; non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases are not so often notified.

Small Pox.—No (a) Primary Vaccinations and (b) Re-vaccinations were performed under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

No case of locally contracted Anthrax occurred.

Four cases of Rabies occurred.

Maternity and Child Welfare :

The Staff concerned with the above consists of a Medical Officer, who attends weekly at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre for the purpose of giving advice to Mothers and treatment to their Infants.

He is assisted by a Health Visitor and Voluntary Workers. The Health Visitor visits Mothers after notification of Birth of Infant, and during 1920 5394 total visits were made to Infants and Children up to age of 5 years.

Early in this year the Municipal Midwife commenced her duties, and she has already attended a considerable number of women in their confinements. She also assists in Home visiting and in the work at the Welfare Centre. An Institution in the District deals with Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

Supply of Milk.—Total number of applications allowed, 126 ; free of cost, 88 ; at half cost, 38.

Other Foods supplied at the Welfare Centre are Glaxo, Virolax and Thymol. These are supplied at cost price.

No cases of Puerperal Fever were notified in the District. Thirty-two cases of Measles were visited and four cases of epidemic Diarrhœa. Seven cases of Ophthalmia Neoatorum were notified and personally visited by me and treated at Home or in Hospital as appeared necessary. One of these cases did not belong to the District. In all cases both eyes were affected, but under treatment the eyes completely cleared and no permanent injury resulted.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre :

Annual Report (fourth year) for 1920.

April 1921.

There has been a great increase, both in the number of new cases applying for advice and in the total number of attendances in the case of infants. The total number of new cases was 252, as compared with 168 in 1919, and the number of attendances was 1417, as compared with 716 in 1919. The general health of those attending was very good, and there were few cases of neglect or of disregard of instructions. 68 cases, chiefly for minor surgical operations, were sent to Salisbury General Infirmary.

The "Local Authorities Milk Order" was adopted in January 1920, and proved of great benefit during the period of scarcity and high price of milk.

It is still practically impossible to induce expectant Mothers to attend the Centre. Great thanks are due to the Voluntary Workers, both in the City and at the Centre.

W. W. ORD.

Sanitary Administration :

- i. Staff consists of a Medical Officer of Health and a whole-time Sanitary Inspector.
- ii. Hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases is the Salisbury and District Isolation Hospital. A Small Pox Hospital is also available. The Hospital is managed by a Committee and a Visiting Medical Officer. It is sufficient for the needs of the District.
- iii. Local Acts.—None exist.
- iv. Arrangements for Chemical work. This is performed by the City Analyst. Bacteriological work is mostly performed by the Medical Officer to the Isolation Hospital. Examinations for Tubercle Bacilli are done through the County Tuberculosis Officer.

HOUSING.

Work supervised by the Sanitary Inspector :—

Complaints investigated	67
Overcrowding abated	6
Houses cleansed and repaired	98
Additional light and ventilation provided to dwellings	3
Defective house roofs, walls and gutters &c. repaired	194
Chimneys raised or repaired	14
Floors in houses or wash-houses relaid or repaired	68
Dangerous stairs and defective windows repaired	17
Ground floor ventilation provided under dwellings	15
Dampness in walls of dwellings remedied	40
Insufficient W.C. accommodation, extra provided	4
Closets abolished on account of dilapidation	2
„ reconstructed	2
„ externally ventilated	1
„ cleansed and repaired	97
„ where new pans and traps (including pedestals) were provided	33
Seats, roofs, and floors of closets repaired or renewed	130
Closet cisterns repaired or renewed	85
Washhouses limewashed and repaired	3
Drains, inside houses or washhouses, removed	9
Drains cleansed, relaid or repaired	79
Traps fixed to drains (including interceptors)	29
Fresh air inlets on house drains repaired	8
Fall spouting disconnected from house drains	17
Inspection chambers constructed	2
Inspection chambers provided with air tight covers	1
Ventilating shafts fixed or repaired	6
Sinks made to discharge over gullies in outside air	9
Sink troughs and waste pipes provided	18
Sink troughs repaired or refixed	12
Yards paved and drained or paving repaired	43
Passages cleansed and limewashed	5
Bath and lavatory wastes made to discharge over gullies	4
Fall spouting and gutterings provided to dwellings	3
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	1
„ „ provided	2
Urinals repaired and cleansed	5
Manure receptacles repaired or provided	3
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed	17
Cesspools cleaned out	1
Smoke nuisances abated	2
Dust receptacles provided	8
Stable yards paved or repaired and drained	2
Pigstyes cleansed and limewashed	18
Nuisances from the keeping of animals removed	24
Slaughter houses cleansed and limewashed	14
Common lodging-houses cleansed and limewashed	2
Dairies and cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	7

Houses or rooms cleansed and redecorated after cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14
Rooms cleansed after other infectious diseases	2
Workshops, including bakehouses, re-limewashed	28
Windows in living rooms or bedrooms made to open	1
Lots of bedding, clothing &c. destroyed	3
„ „ disinfected after infectious disease	66
Sanitary conveniences provided to workshops	3
Pig nuisances abated	2
Insufficient drainage, extra provided	4

Housing :

i. General Housing Conditions in the District :

1. Number of houses to-day estimated 4865 ; number for the working classes 3409 ; new houses for the working classes erected during the year 3 ; in course of erection 76.
2. Population, with information as to any important changes during the year or anticipated in the future.—Estimated at 25,000.
3. Extent of shortage or excess of houses.—About 300 houses short.
Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage —500 houses under Housing Scheme.

ii. Overcrowding :

1. Extent.—Fair amount.
2. Cause.—Want of houses.
3. Measures taken or contemplated to deal with overcrowding.—Public Health Act 1875.
4. Principal cases of overcrowding dealt with during the year and action taken.—Notices served.

iii. Fitness of Houses :

1. (a) General standard of housing in the district.—Good.
A part of the poorer population of the district live in houses in Courts ; this class of property is let at a low rental, and so readily finds tenants. The rest of the working class live in ordinary cottage property of four to six-roomed houses ; the sanitary condition is as a rule good. There are open spaces around all this class of property, and no back to back houses exist, except in cases of some of the courts above mentioned. New houses are erected under supervision and no new house is inhabited without a Certificate from the City Surveyor.
(b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses.—Defective roofs, gutters, &c.
2. Action taken as regards unfit houses under (a) the Public Health Acts, (b) the Housing Acts.—Notices served.
3. Difficulties in remedying unfitness, special measures taken, and any suggestions in the matter.—Shortage of houses.
4. Conditions, so far as they affect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation, and refuse disposal, together with measures taken during the year in these matters.—All very good.

iv. *Unhealthy Areas :*

1. Action taken as regards areas represented before the beginning of the year under Part I. or Part II. of the Housing Act of 1890.—None.
2. Particulars of and action taken as regards areas represented during the year.—None.
3. Information as to complaints made during the year that areas were unhealthy and action taken.—None.

v. *Byelaws relating to Houses, to Houses let in Lodgings, and to Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c. :*

1. As to working of existing Byelaws, and
2. As to need for new Byelaws or revision of existing Byelaws.—New building Byelaws suspended on outbreak of War.

vi. *General and Miscellaneous :*

Generally, an account of any action bearing on the public health, not covered by the above particulars, which has been taken during the year by the Local Authority in connection with overcrowding, insanitary property, and housing, whether under the Housing Acts or the Public Health Acts.—Nothing, except as above.

Factories and Workshops :

A Register of these premises is kept and 510 inspections were made, and any defects discovered were immediately notified and duly remedied. In a few instances Workshops were either converted into Factories, closed down, or the occupiers discontinued the employment of hands in the same.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December 1920.

(1) GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	..	..	..	..	..	23,428
(2) General death rate	..	..	..	..	..	9.3
(3) Death rate from tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	.51
(4) Infantile mortality	..	..	..	..	..	47.9
(5) Number of dwelling houses of all classes	..	..	..	..	..	4840
(6) Number of working-class dwelling houses	..	..	..	..	..	3409
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	..	..	..	..	..	None, but many in course of erection.

(2) UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

i. *Inspection :*

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Section 17 of the Housing, Town Planning &c. Act)	287
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910	287
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

ii. *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ..	0
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iii. *Action under Statutory Powers :*

(a) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	None under this Act.
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(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit—

(a) by owners	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0

(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0
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(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	387
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(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied	334
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(a) by owners	334
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(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0
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(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act 1909—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
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(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
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(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	0
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(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
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(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
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(3) UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890 :—

(1) Name of area	} Not at present dealt with.
(2) Acreage	
(3) Number of working-class houses in area	
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced	

4.—Number of houses not complying with the Building Byelaws erected with consent of Local Authority under Section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act 1919	3
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5.—Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer	One whole-time Inspector.
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